

Atlas Academy Newsletter – November 2023 UPDATE

Thank you very much to all of our parents who completed a survey at our recent Parents Evenings. The vast majority of you said that your child is happy, feels safe and is learning at our school, and we really appreciate your ongoing efforts and support as we work together to provide your children with the very best learning opportunities here at Atlas.

We received 89 completed parent surveys

	Yes	No	Not Sure
My child is happy	92%	1%	7%
My child feels safe	97%	0%	3%
My child is learning	96%	0%	4%

What we are doing well

'Supporting children like my son who struggled to settle down in a new environment straight away'

'I'm very happy with everything. She is going with joy to school.'

'I can see the impact of the teaching in X's excellent performance.'

'Excellent teaching. My son has improved within the shortest time since he joined the school.'

'Your school is doing well both in academics and morals.'

'You make sure that there is progress in learning depending on the capacity of the child.'

'He has lessons to teach to enhance growth. This is the best school for him. Thanks staff for their excellent work.'

'Great communication with teacher via Dojo app – always there to reply and alleviate worries.'

What we could do better

'Stop cars from parking around the school during drop off and pick-up – very dangerous.' - We appreciate that this is an ongoing issue and respectfully ask all families to support our school by parking safely and **only in designated areas**. Please be aware that there will be further patrols of Doncaster Council traffic enforcement officers around school at drop off and pick up times in order to support us further in ensuring that our school is a safe place for **every** member of our community.

A number of parents also requested more homework. Whilst we really encourage parents to support learning at home we also want to ensure that our children have the best opportunities to spend time doing things they enjoy when they are not in school. We would like you to spend as much time as possible reading with your child (either their home reader or a story from home) as well as encouraging them to practice basic maths skills using Sumdog and Times Tables Rock Stars. Our older children will receive additional learning activities as part of their preparations for their Year 6 SATS tests.

Attendance

We were delighted to learn that we were in 1st place in the Trust's attendance table during W/B 30th October with an overall school attendance of 96%. This is a huge achievement for us and I am so proud of the efforts of our pupils, parents and staff in helping us to significantly improve our attendance so far this year. Please keep up your efforts at home – if your child is in school they have a far better chance of being successful with their learning which we **ALL** want.

School Photographs – Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th November

The photographer will be in school on **Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th November** for individual and siblings' photographs. Further information to follow.



Children in Need Day – Friday 17th November

We will be marking Children in Need Day this **Friday, 17th November** by inviting all of our children and staff to wear their own clothes in return for a donation of £1.



Anti-Bullying Week – this week

The theme of this year's anti-bullying week is 'Make a Noise About Bullying.' On Monday all of our children and staff wore odd socks to celebrate that we are all unique and to spread awareness of the importance anti-bullying messages, and we had a special assembly and lessons in all classrooms to help our children understand what bullying actually means and what we can all do together to stop it from taking place.

The following links provide further information and guidance for families around the subject of bullying. Please do not hesitate to

speak with your child's classteacher or Mrs. Grant, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, should you need any further support:

<https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/kids.html>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/bullying/>

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2023-make-noise-about-bullying/parents-and-carers>

INSET Day – Friday 24th November

A reminder that our teaching staff have a training day next Friday, 24th November and school will be **CLOSED** to all pupils. We re-open on Monday 27th November.

Important dates for the diary

November

Friday 17th – Children in Need (non-school uniform with £1 donation)

Monday 20th – Year 1 Social Story Time for parents

Tuesday 21st – SEND Coffee Afternoon, 2:30pm

Wednesday 22nd – Reception Social Story Time for parents

Thursday 23rd – Year 2 Social Story Time for parents

Friday 24th – INSET Day, **school CLOSED to children**

Monday 27th – Year 3 Social Story Time for parents

Tuesday 28th – Year 4 Social Story Time for parents

Wednesday 29th – Year 5 Social Story Time for parents

Thursday 30th – Year 6 Social Story Time for parents

Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th – School Photographs

December

Wednesday 13th - Reception-Y3 trip to the Pantomime at Cast Theatre

Thursday 14th – Reception performance for parents

Friday 15th – Nursery performances for parents

Monday 18th – KS1 performance for Y1 parents

Tuesday 19th – Y3 and Y4 performance to parents

Wednesday 20th – Y4-Y6 trip to the Pantomime at Cast Theatre

Wednesday 20th – KS1 performance to Y2 parents

Thursday 21st – Christmas Party Lunch

Thursday 21st – Y5 and Y6 performance to parents

Friday 22nd – End of Term

January

Monday 8th – Start of Spring Term

Thank you for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated by all of us.

Peter Sturgess

Principal